FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTRY ANGERED BY REMARKS IN HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE

PY102242Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2215 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Aug--Authorized spokesmen of the Foreign Ministry expressed "indignation" tonight regarding statements made yesterday by Patricia Derian to the Inter-American Affairs Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives. The spokesmen said "these statements are a demonstration of the regrettable lack of responsibility of a high-ranking diplomatic official of a country that maintains relations which the Argentine Government wishes to preserve on a level of friendship and mutual respect." The officials rejected Patricia Derian's statements "not only because of the clumsy distortion of reality which they imply, but also because of the use of false and tendentious information which, in the final analysis, is an insult to the Argentine people."

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY

PY102105Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1440 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Aug--South African Foreign Minister Roelof Pik Botha has stated here that "we believe the United States has the right to demand respect for human rights, but we do not believe it should do this only with regard to nations which are not as strong as the United States. In the case of the Soviet Union, the PRC or the oil-producing countries, its demands for respect of human rights weaken, and this is especially reprehensible."

Botha, who arrived in Argentina last night on his way to Paraguay where he will attend the presidential installation of Gen Alfredo Stroessner in Asuncion, granted an exclusive interview to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, stating, among other things, that "we believe the United States is right in trying to make other governments do what it wants toward the attainment of greater justice, but it should not try to achieve this by threatening or offending these governments because nothing is achieved in this way."

Asked whether he believes it proper for countries like Argentina and South Africa, which are constantly attacked in international forums for alleged violations of human rights, to implement common action to counteract these campaigns which undermine their prestige, Foreign Minister Botha said: "I do not believe that common action of this kind would be viable bearing in mind the sensitivity of the people, who would immediately say--and this applies to both your enemies and ours--there you are, now they are joining forces." With regard to this reaction, he added: "Our enemies will say: See, South Africa has given support to certain aspects of Argentine Government policy with which the people are not pleased, and Argentina has given its support to certain aspects of South African politics which may bring severe problems to the Argentine Government."

Botha added that his country's position in that common action must be applied to the implementation of constructive projects such as the exchange of scientific knowledge, technology and aid to other countries, and concluded by stating that he does not understand the U.S. position and demands regarding human rights. He said: "On one hand we cannot accept duplicity or dual standards. On the other hand we are called upon every day to improve the standards of living of the black people, and we are ready to do this with our people because we are determined to eradicate the hateful and humiliating forms of discrimination. But it is absurd for the United States to hinder our economic development because this creates a contradiction."

He explained: "This is so because while we are asked to invest more in improving the standards of living of the blakcs--which we are ready to do and are actually doing--efforts are made to hinder our economic development, which is precisely the source of our funds for this improvement. This is something I do not understand at all."

Botha added in conclusion that "it would seem the problem is that the United States wants to punish us to prove to the world that it has atoned for its own guilt because of what it did to its own blacks."

LA NACION EXAMINES PROSPECTS OF U.S. FINANCING FOR YACYRETA

PY081509Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 7 Aug 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "In Spite of Everything"]

[Text] The Argentine president of the Yacyreta binational enterprise has given assurances that the project under his leadership will be guaranteed financing. It is necessary to explain these words.

Engineer Pegoraro did not mean that credits have already been granted. His remark meant that there is no reason to worry about all the intrigue in Washington which has entangled the Eximbank in its actions. Yacyreta will definitely have financing because, despite the arbitrary political decisions of the U.S. public sector--and whether it is admitted or not Argentina is the victim of some of them--democracy still rules in that country. That is, what is decided by the public sector may be opposed by the private sector. Proof: The Yacyreta project, be it at the expense of a single U.S. firm or whatever the consequences that may be perceived, has been held up by the State Department. Something similar happened with a financing request presented by Aerolineas Argentinas for the purchase of several planes to renew its fleet. However, the Argentine state-owned airline obtained the credits it needed through a consortium of private banks.

If that was possible when several millions of dollars were involved, then it is also possible for a project in which both Argentina and Paraguay are involved. In effect, the project designed to exploit the joint resources of the Alto Parana could obtain the means necessary for its completion. Pegoraro's announcement did not come as a surprise. It is confirmation of the maneuvering capacity which fortunately our country recovered when it not only overcame the dramatic situation of its external sector, but also recovered its important position given by the amount of its accumulated foreign currency reserves.

With reserves totaling more than $6 billion in its possession, Argentina has the necessary backing, at least in a certain number of fields, to carry out a vigorous independent policy. Sovereignty should not only be proclaimed, it should be defended with actions. One of these actions involves managing the nation's economy in such a way that it will be strengthened and made less vulnerable, thus making the country's external sector less vulnerable.

Yacyreta will be financed, and the best of luck to it. But first let us thank those who have reversed the country's calamitous situation in the international financial field in such a short time. Secondly, let us thank the virtues of the democracy which fully reigns in the United States. We cannot imagine a totalitarian society in which the current administration would have such little influence on private enterprises, as was shown in the Aerolineas Argentinas case, and, as it seems, will shortly be reasserted in other matters. In addition, a country such as ours, which has always made it a question of honor to punctually pay off its debts, should receive the rewards it deserves.

CLARIN VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF COOPERATION PACT WITH USSR

PY100343Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 8, 9 PY

[Text] Argentina has just ratified an important agreement with the USSR on scientific-technological cooperation which was signed in 1974 and which was undoubtedly subjected to the needed updating.

This news was released coincidently with insistent reports from well-informed circles that Foreign Minister Oscar A. Montes may visit Moscow. Even though no firm step has been taken so far, it is clear that Soviet officials will give a green light to this initiative provided an agenda with specific issues to be negotiated is prepared. The issues would not be of a political nature, but might be related to the guidelines for bilateral trade. Argentina is a strong seller of agricultural and semi-industrialized products to the USSR, but does not purchase enough items to balance this trade.

The other party is therefore interested in selling specific goods, such as turbines for the many hydroelectric projects being planned.

The USSR has already sold equipment for some thermoelectrical plants and the Salto Grande, and has also made an offer, in association with other European firms, on the Yacyreta project shared with Paraguay.

Trade and technical relations with the USSR are bound to increase firmly if Argentina decided to speed up studies on utilization of the Parana Medio.

The Soviets have broad experience with rivers traversing flat land and they offer appropriate financing terms. The Parana Medio is indeed a very big project which is difficult to undertake, but it appears essential if one wishes to prepare a broad area of Argentine territory for productive exploitation, provide for the navigation of deepwater vessels as far as Corrientes, and neutralize flooding, which causes disasters.

The technical cooperation agreement is an appropriate tool to facilitate trips by specialists so the bothersome procedures which many times hinder or delay travel by top personalities may be overcome. In this area and in the exchange of information and scholarships, the agreement is a step toward removing obstacles to cooperation.

The Parana Medio issue has been used many times as an alternative in the face of difficulties presented regarding negotiations with Brazil and Paraguay on the proper height of the Corpus dam. Once again we must insist that this view is inappropriate. Corpus is a very important project worth including in Argentine electric plans, and its studies should be finished as soon as possible. The Parana Medio is undoubtedly an independent project.

Cooperation with the USSR is also usually presented as an alternative to temporary deterioration of ties with the United States due to unilateral U.S. measures such as restricting military cooperation or explicitly hindering Argentine development projects on the grounds of defending human rights.

We should also state that the ideal situation would be to use all resources available in one bloc or the other in order to promote priorities within development projects as determined by the national leadership. For this, we must reject the formation of blocs. The search for and eventually the recovery of this equilibrium must be the target of Argentine foreign policy.

PERU GIVEN $48-MILLION LOAN FOR NUCLEAR PLANT

PY110149Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 10 Aug 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpt] Lima, 9 Aug--The Argentine National Development Bank has promised to grant a $48-million loan to its Peruvian counterpart to finance Peru's nuclear plant project. The agreement was approved at the fourth meeting of the special Argentine-Peruvian Coordinating Commission.

RADIO, PRESS WORKERS WILL PROTEST WITH STRIKE ON MONDAY

PY101343Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The special meeting of radio and television workers unions secretaries general has decreed a 24-hour strike which will be staged on Monday, 14 August, beginning at 0000. The radio workers decided to take this drastic measure as a protest demonstration against the outrages committed against the physical integrity of union members, the permanent intimidation through arbitrary detentions and the denial of the freedom of expression.

Apart from staging the strike, the radio workers also demand the withdrawal of army troops from the mining centers. They further announce that the fifth regular congress of the unions will be held in this city on 22-23 September of this year.

The resolution of the special meeting does not specify if the radio workers 24-hour strike will be staged in La Paz only, or throughout the country. The document is signed by delegates from La Paz, Cochabamba, Oruro, the mining centers and Potosi. The secretaries general of the radio workers unions in Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, Beni, Pando and Tarija departments have not participated in the meeting.

The Bolivian Federation of Newspaper Workers [FTPB] has meanwhile also decreed a strike by all of its members throughout the country in protest against an attack on a press worker in Uncia and other attacks on the freedom of the press. The strike, which will also be staged next Monday, was decided on yesterday after the FTPB executive committee had heard the victim of the attack, (Hugo Serrano), editor of the 21 de Diciembre Radio Station in Catavi. During the hearing (Serrano) gave details of the attack on him by six officers of the armed forces stationed in Uncia.

The decision was also prompted by the latest outrages committed in the country against freedom of the press, principally the occupation of radio stations in various regions of the country by paramilitary forces, the confiscation of an issue of the Cochabamba newspaper LOS TIEMPOS, the attack against newsman Marcial Mancilla at his desk in the Pio Doce Radio Station in Siglo Viente, and the detention of newsman Eliodoro Aillon in Sucre.

TWO DYNAMITE ATTACKS STAGED IN COCHABAMBA

PY101851Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Radio Panamericana reporting from Cochabamba: At midnight two dynamite attacks occurred in this city, one of them at the home of Eduardo Soriano Badani, comptroller general of the republic, the other at the home of (Jose Abdonio Ayala Canedo), member of the People's Nationalist Union. According to official reports, there were no victims, but there was considerable material damage.

COMMUNIST LEADER TO RETURN FROM EXILE IN VENEZUELA

PA100427Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 6 Aug 78 p D-15 PA

[Article by K.O.]

[Excerpts] Gerson Justiniano Guiteras, a native Bolivian, is returning to his country. His return is due to the fact that, as a good soldier, he has stayed away from his country only as long as political circumstances required. Changes in recent months, even though not very favorable within the present political panorama, suggest he should return for good.

Everybody regrets his departure but the country calls:

[Justiniano Guiteras] I know I have been treated and received well and I worked wholeheartedly for the Central University of Venezuela. However, I have a moral commitment to my country; that is why I have resigned.

[Question] What will you do in Bolivia?

[Answer] I am going to continue the political struggle and continue working in my law office.

[Question] How do you view Bolivia's current situation?

[Answer] It was a coup d'etat by the military against the opposition which had triumphed in the elections. But the situation is not the same as when Banzer came to power because the opposition is united. Also, there is international repudiation of the dictatorship.

[Question] What about the current regime?

[Answer] I do not think that this government will be able to rule as Banzer did because it is unstable as a result of its lack of support.

CHILE CALLED INFLEXIBLE ON SEA OUTLET

PY092232Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Relations Under Secretary Marcelo Ostria stated today at noon that Chile's inflexible position, expressed by the foreign minister of that country, does not belong to this era. He was referring to a recent statement by the Chilean foreign minister in Bogota, where he maintained that Bolivia has no pending problem with Chile. Ostria added that this is an argument which is well known by the Foreign Ministry.

He then referred to the motives which led to the severance of relations with Chile. [recorded passage indistinct] He added that Foreign Minister Ricardo Anaya, on an earlier occasion, had clearly and categorically stated the position of this country regarding the possibilities of resuming relations with Chile. However, he made the following clarification of what the foreign minister had said:

[Begin Ostria recording] What the minister said is that the problem of our landlocked situation will be studied. New lines of action will be studied. It is obviously still too early to give the press or the public a report on this. The problem has our priority attention and efforts to (?solve it). We believe that the desires of the people should be listened to and we will therefore hear the opinions of all sectors of the nation. [end recording]

The foreign relations under secretary concluded by saying that the new Bolivian position regarding the maritime problem will not be defined until new studies under way are finished and until the results of the consultations which will be made on the subject are known. [begin Ostria recording] We are preparing our new course of action and we will make consultations. The Bolivian position should be a true expression of popular will. [end recording]

OTHERS MAY SEEK MDB NOMINATION AS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY110137Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Porto Alegre--On arriving at Salgado Filho Airport, Ulysses Guimaraes, national president of the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB], stated that besides Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro, there are other candidates who may seek the MDB presidential nomination at the 23 August national convention, and he mentioned the names of Senators Paulo Brossard, Lazaro Barbosa and Marcos Freire. He noted, however, that the final decision will be made at the MDB national convention. Guimaraes noted that General Bentes Monteiro shares the MDB's basic goals and admitted that the opposition slate might be as follows: Bentes Monteiro for president and Brossard for vice president.

He also said that no one could regard some members of the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA] as unfaithful just because they share some MDB views, since many of the MDB's guidelines are also shared by ARENA, which also seeks full democracy.

At a press conference held in Porto Alegre this afternoon, Senator Magalhaes Pinto said he has always advocated the return of politicians--that is, of civilians--to power. After emphasizing that there are no schisms within the armed forces, Magalhaes noted, however, that the nationwide discontent must have reached military quarters. Although acknowledging that military officers have done important work, Magalhaes reiterated that the office of president of the republic should be occupied by a civilian. He said that although his candidacy on the MDB ticket was viable, he decided not to participate in the MDB convention to avoid divisions within the opposition.

Magalhaes admitted that he might form a unified center-left party with ARENA dissidents, but without party labels. Magalhaes expressed opposition to General Bentes' proposal for a transition government, noting that the country's socioeconomic situation is too serious to withstand one.

Magalhaes held a 30-minute meeting with Governor Sinval Guazelli and a 15-minute meeting with Cardinal Vicente Scherer.

BRAZIL TO REJECT 12-MILE SOVEREIGNTY AT LAW OF SEA SESSION

PY101329Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Aug 78 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] Carlos Calero Rodrigues, Brazilian ambassador in Warsaw, will head Brazil's delegation to the seventh session of the Law of the Sea Conference to be held in New York in the second half of this month. The delegation will be composed of four diplomats, three naval officers and two international law experts, and has been instructed to uphold Brazil's claim of sovereignty over the 200-mile zone, the Foreign Ministry reported. Therefore, Brazil does not accept sovereignty over the 12-mile zone as the industrialized nations, headed by the United States, want.

Almost all nations in the world participate in the sea conference sponsored by the United Nations. According to Itamaraty, Brazil will continue to support the position that the nations interested in exploiting mineral resources lying on the bottom of the seas are under obligation to share their technology.

JUDGE DISMISSES CRIMINAL SUIT AGAINST CONTRERAS

PY101514Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0233 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 Aug--A Chilean court today rejected a criminal suit filed against the former chief of the disbanded National Intelligence Directorate (DINA), Gen Manuel Contreras, by relatives of missing persons.

The relatives had filed charges of alleged kidnaping and [responsibility for] disappearance of 69 persons, under the sponsorship of lawyers of the Vicariate of Solidarity of the Catholic Church. In their criminal suit the lawyers asked the Defense Ministry to report whether Gen Manuel Contreras, Col Marcelo Moren and Maj Rodolfo Wenderoth belong to the army or any other branch of the armed forces.

This request was denied by the judge of the 10th criminal court of Santiago, Carla Figueroa. The judge also rejected another request of the plaintiffs, who had asked her to rule on the matter at hand so as to carry out summary proceedings and investigate the disappearance of the 69 persons. The judge ruled that each of the cases submitted for consideration should be dealt with by different courts, before which the appropriate suits should be filed.

COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES VICARIATE OF SOLIDARITY

PY102332Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Commentary by Rafael Pissaner]

[Summary] Some things call for the well-known Chilean expression: "They overdid it." This time it is the Vicariate of Solidarity, which filed a lawsuit against the Chilean Council of Mothers' Centers [CEMA] on an alleged violation of labor laws and mistreatment of one employee.

"Like everything carried out by the Vicariate of Solidarity, this lawsuit against CEMA has a political motive." It is designed to discredit an institution headed by the first lady. The issue has to do with a robbery at the CEMA warehouse in Santiago. The evidence apparently incriminated four employees. Trying to minimize the case, Mrs Pinochet did not report it to the police but simply dismissed the four employees and reported this decision to the labor directorate. One employee charged that she had been whipped and tortured before being fired. The Vicariate of Solidarity reacted instantly, took the case, hired the lawyers, and filed a lawsuit against CEMA.

This is, first, the consequence of the first lady's excessive compassion. But there is also something else to be said about the Vicariate of Solidarity. It is well known that the Vicariate of Solidarity takes advantage of the services of poor unemployed women to make tapestries, paying them meager prices and then selling them at more than 100 percent profit. The Vicariate has also acted as a factory for esylees. As an example, a few years ago it deceitfully gathered people and told them to seek asylum at the old building of the Bulgarian Embassy, which no longer had diplomatic immunity. Finally, we have this case of the lawsuit filed against CEMA.

"Frankly, this is too much. Things have come to a point where, once and for all, public repudiation of an anti-Chilean organization which receives and maintains contacts abroad--and we are not mentioning its financing--must be disclosed.

"In this case the Vicariate of Solidarity has simply gone too far. Fortunately, we are going through a time when (?the principle of authority) is respected. No one among the 11 million Chileans could draw a parallel between the Vicariate of Solidarity and CEMA. Therefore, the Vicariate of Solidarity has engaged in a battle which is lost from the beginning."

GOVERNMENT CONDITIONALLY WILLING TO REJOIN ANDEAN PACT

PY102352Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Pablo Baraona has said that intervention of the telephone company will end on 10 September, in view of the need for expansion. This company has been under intervention since the previous government.

Baraona was also asked about a possible Chilean return to the Andean pact. He said: [begin recording] [passage indistinct] We are quite ready to make any kind of contact but we are not ready to jeopardize basic guidelines in matters of economic policy. If the Andean pact is compatible with the basic guidelines of our economic policy we will be happy to rejoin it, but if not, unfortunately we cannot do so. [end recording]

Baraona also referred to foreign trade policy. [begin Baraona recording] I feel that it would be very difficult to change our country's foreign trade policy because the people have become aware of its results and the benefits it brings. [end recording] He indicated that if the value of the dollar were normal, the budget would be absolutely normal, and he added that for a few months there has been no reason for inflation to exceed two percent monthly. He added that the July increase was a little higher than he expected.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT OFFICIALLY APPROVED

PY102052Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The government junta has approved the basic trade agreement between Chile and Egypt signed in Cairo in December of last year. The decree has been published in the official bulletin. According to figures released by the Foreign Ministry economics directorate, the trade balance with the Arab country is favorable for Chile. While we exported goods to Egypt in 1976 for a total of $271,700, Chilean products for a value of $12.6 million [as heard] were sold in 1975. Our purchases from Egypt were insignificant. Until April of this year Chile had exported to Egypt goods worth $1.43 million, while Chile had not bought anything from Egypt by that date.

ADMIRAL MERINO WILL ATTEND NAVAL CONFERENCE IN PERU

PY091926Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The commander in chief of the navy will leave for Lima next week. Adm Jose Toribio Merino will attend the ninth inter-American naval board conference, according to an announcement made by the navy headquarters. The member of the government junta was specially invited by the commander of the Peruvian Navy, Adm Jorge Mazure Gamboa. In addition to Latin American naval chiefs, the deputy chief of the (?U.S.) Navy will also attend.

Admiral Merino will be accompanied by his wife, (Margarita Rios de Merino), the director of the naval academy, Capt (Francisco Sindolfo), and an officer from the general staff, Cdr (Jorge Sepulveda). The official delegation will remain in the Peruvian capital for five days.

TURBAY AYALA TO END 'SIEGE,' SEEK 'PLURALIST' TIES

LD081033Y Paris LE MONDE in French 6,7 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Vincent Beaufils "recent" interview, presumably in Colombia, with Colombian President-elect Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala: "My Government Will Have a Popular and Nationalist Social Overtone"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Can you regard yourself as democratically elected, considering that two-thirds of the Colombian electorate abstained on 4 June.

[Answer] Active participation by the electorate is not a Colombian tradition. Voting is not obligatory in Colombia and long distances are an obstacle to voting in rural areas. But what counts most is the fact that, apart from the election of the incumbent President Lopez Michelsen, the Liberal Party has never obtained as many votes as it did at my election. How can it therefore be seen as anything but a mass party?

[Question] A recent inquiry has made it clear that the Colombian people have no illusions with respect to their institutions. According to this opinion poll, only 12 percent of them still have any confidence in the presidency. Can elected representatives regain the citizens' trust?

[Answer] To achieve this I will have to impart to my government a genuinely popular and nationalist social overtone. I can do this because I owe my election neither to pressure groups nor to great potentates. I am not a member of the "smart" classes of society. My family possesses no coat of arms. Now coats of arms do not help anyone to understand the people's desire for change. However, I will not hesitate to take unpopular measures and I will act like a father who chooses for his children not what they want but what they need.

[Question] Your predecessor Lopez Michelsen chose the following political slogan:"It is necessary to 'bridge the gulf'." However, the gulf between rich and poor has not been bridged. The influx of foreign exchange--a consequence of high world coffee prices--has even contributed to its deepening. What concrete measures do you propose to reduce inequalities?

[Answer] I want to "decentralize development." The provinces, thanks to which I have always been elected, are also entitled to a share of the revenue. The creation of small and medium industrial enterprises in the provinces will be encouraged, agriculture-based industry strengthened and the number of free zones increased. It will be possible to achieve all this only if the administration is decentralized--a reform will provide for this, and constitutional amendments will be introduced if necessary.

[Question] Throughout your campaign you have been repeating the slogan "production, security and employment." How do you propose to achieve these objectives?

[Answer] In order to reduce unemployment it would be better to encourage investments rather than to further increase the number of jobs in the public sector, which are not "sound" jobs. Therefore, loans on advantageous terms will be granted to propspective investors and customs duties will be reduced with respect to equipment and goods needed to create industry. Furthermore, enterprises employing many workers will probably be given tax concessions. Measures to be taken to combat insecurity do not have to be merely repressive measures.

The forces of order may be "trigger-happy," but this will not stop peasants from emigrating to cities where they do not know what to do. Military service during which only the use of arms is taught is also partly responsible for this situation. But how can you fail to see that delinquency can best be explained if not justified by the very bad conditions prevailing in city life?

[Question] Do you contemplate the possibility of ending the state of siege which has been enforced for the past 30 years practically continuously?

[Answer] In our country state of siege does not mean suspension of constitutional guarantees. It is a system designed to accelerate the tracking down of delinquents. I intend to consider a bill which would make it possible to end the state of siege, whose continuation certainly harms the country's image abroad, while leaving to the forces of order a certain freedom of action with respect to pursuing their duties.

[Question] Do the objectives of your foreign policy include development of exchanges with Cuba and establishing relations with the People's Republic of China?

[Answer] We must improve our relations with the socialist world because socialist countries are big potential customers as far as our foreign trade is concerned, and furthermore this would coincide with the pluralist objectives of our foreign policy. As for China, we can no longer ignore a country with 800 million inhabitants despite the importance of pressure groups favorable to Taiwan.

[Question] What is Colombia's attitude toward President Carter's human rights policy?

[Answer] First of all, there are no political prisoners in Colombia and there is no press censorship. Newspapers have written all sorts of things about me, and I doubt whether President Giscard d'Estaing is treated in the same way by French newspapers. Colombia has no economic weapons comparable to those of the United States at its disposal which it could use in support of human rights abroad. I find the idea of establishing an inter-American court for human rights attractive because this would remove the risk of interference by one country in the domestic affairs of another in the name of human rights. (LE MONDE note: A resolution on the creation of an inter-American court for human rights was put forward by the American human rights convention and adopted in 1969, but it came into effect only on 18 July 1977 after it was ratified by Grenada, the 11th country to do so of a total of 21 member states.)

LABOR REACTION TO INAUGURAL ADDRESS MIXED

PA090350Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The opposition today alerted Colombian labor organizations to what it considers is an attempt on the part of the new government to divide the labor centrals so that it can counteract and reduce whatever gains the workers have obtained. The National Opposition Union (UNO) said that President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in yesterday's speech did not express any support for the working classes and instead it seems as if he was trying to abolish the conquests that the trade unions have gained in wage increases. UNO added that no matter what the new government plans, the nation's labor organizations are standing on solid foundations and nothing can destroy or divide them because the workers realize that this is one way to gain respect for its interests and to reach new goals.

Meanwhile, Congressman Tulio Cuevas, president of the Union of Colombian Workers (UTC), today offered full support to the new government. He said that he will not engage in a pro- or anti-government campaign, but that he will only promote the interests of Colombia's labor movements.

[Begin Tulio Cuevas recording]: In my opinion President Turbay Ayala's inauguration speech was fundamentally an appeal for peace and concord, designed to calm down the state of unrest that exists among Colombians and to urge them to think and cooperate in the solution of the country's problems. We really were in need of an encouraging and optimistic voice from one of our leaders and it was precisely Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala who has introduced the pause we need and restored optimism among all Colombians.

His speech was very simple, but very eloquent. He also outlined a definite government program. It was a revelation to the country. In order to carry out this program, he has surrounded himself with excellent personalities, such as those who form his cabinet. There is no doubt that this is going to be a government the Colombian people are going to remember for a long time. We are particularly pleased with President Turbay Ayala's invitation to the labor centrals, especially the democratic ones, to participate in his government in an effective way. [end recording]

COUNCIL OF STATE RATIFIES PRESS FREEDOM

PA102013Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota--Today in a ruling of great juridical importance, the Council of State ratified the freedom of the press in Colombian and free access by newsmen to the documents of the Congress and other sources of information.

In the ruling, the high tribunal confirmed that it is the obligation of public officials and police authorities to comply with the laws that guarantee freedom of movement to newsmen and access to the sites of news events. There are exceptions in cases of strict confidentiality if the security of the nation is involved.

In addition, the ruling refers to the individual's right to freedom of thought and expression. This encompasses the right to seek out, receive and publish reports and ideas of all kinds. The Council of State also declared illegal the decision of the board of directors of the Senate to keep newsmen from having access to Senate files and confirmed the principle of freedom of the press in this country.

On a motion by adviser Mario Enrique Perez, the highest administrative disputes court ruled in favor of Daniel Samper Pizano, a columnist of the newspaper EL TIEMPO, and annulled the resolution presented in the last session by Senate President Edmundo Lopez Gomez which denied the newsman free access to the files of the disbursement office. Samper Pizano had filed suit against the resolution, dated 4 August 1977, on the grounds that it was illegal. Although Antonio Gomez, Jaime Angulo (Boza), Abel Mercado Grava and the president of the Senate himself, Edmundo Lopez Gomez, had defended the resolution and contested the suit, the council of state annulled the resolution today.

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT INVITED TO USSR--Bogota--The top Soviet Government organization today officially invited President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to visit Russia in the near future. The invitation was made through the Russian embassy in Colombia. The text of the invitation is as follows: The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government invite his excellency, Colombian President Dr Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to pay an official visit. [Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA]

UNITED LIBERAL PARTY APPLAUDS LAINO'S RELEASE

PY101825Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Aug 78 p 13 PY

[Text] The Executive Board of the United Liberal Party has issued a communique expressing its "deeply felt satisfaction at the release of opposition leader Domingo Laino."

The communique added that "Laino was unjustly and arbitrarily arrested as a result of the arrogance of some men of the current regime who only now appear to be relenting to the demands of all Paraguayan people and the people of America and Europe for the reestablishment of restricted freedoms."

It went on to say that "in view of this first positive step of the government, the Executive Board demands the freedom of all political prisoners and the immediate dismissal of all charges and sentences concocted against opposition leaders. These charges and sentences are nothing but the bitter results of the arbitrariness of bullies and the submission of the courts to the pressure applied by certain individuals who carry out a sort of underhanded retaliation against citizens who have the courage to denounce the shortcomings of the system and the corruption of its men," the communique concluded.

The communique was released last night and it is signed by one of the members of the Executive Board of the United Liberal Party.

EMBOSCADE PRISONERS DEMONSTRATE TO PROTEST DETENTION

PY110229Y Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish 10 Aug 78 p 6, 7 PY

[Excerpts] The political prisoners at Emboscada Prison began a series of protest demonstrations on Tuesday in view of the authorities' failure to comply with promises made to the prisoners. Those detained at the Emboscada concentration camp now refuse to carry out the tasks they are supposed to do and are threatening to resume the hunger strike indefinitely until the promise to relase them is met.

Emboscada Prison, for the past few days, has been in the process of being dismantled. The prison director himself has transferred all his belongings from the prison, and there are only a few pieces of indispensable furniture left. The prisoners are shut and locked into small cells, which they also have to use as toilets, from 2000 to 0600.

The drama of these brothers of ours at Emboscada is interminable. To give a detailed account of their penurious travails would take pages. It is enough to say that this is the pathetic evidence of the "EXTRAORDINARY RESPECT WHICH EXISTS IN PARAGUAY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS," as Caceres Almada [director of Radio Nacional and deputy for the Colorado Party] says on the Voice of the Colorado Party Program, or Gonzalez Alsina [director of the newspaper PATRIA and senator for the Colorado Party] writes in the newspaper without readers.

GOVERNMENT, MINERS HARDEN RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON STRIKE

PA101538Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0747 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[By Claude Regin]

[Excerpts] Lima, 10 Aug (LATIN)--Chances for a solution to the Peruvian miners indefinite strike diminished last night when both the government and labor leaders hardened their respective positions. In an official declaration the government gave the miners until Friday to return to work. It did not specify what penalties would be meted out to the law breakers although labor circles think there will be more dismissals. Victor Cuadros, secretary general of the National Federation of Miners and Metallurgical Workers, told LATIN Tuesday night that the union rejected the ultimatum which it considered illegal.

The main obstacle to a solution to the strike is precisely the union's demand for the reinstatement of approximately 400 miners dismissed last year under similar circumstances. Cuadros said the government cannot legally order the miners to work because "the contracts are signed between the workers and management." He added that both he and other leaders of the federation answered an invitation by the labor minister to resume talks and went to the ministry for a meeting. "But Labor Minister Jose Calderon told us through his secretary that we do not legally represent the miners and that he will only talk to the rank and file..." he said.

Cuadros and other top leaders of the federation are among those dismissed for their alleged participation in organizing last year's mining strike. Cuadros went on to say that "this is obviously a provocation aimed at dividing our federation, but it will fail." He added that the miners of La Oroya will march on Lima "to protest against the maneuver." He also said that his request for a meeting with President Francisco Morales Bermudez has not been answered and that the miners of Cerro Verde will join the strike on Monday.

Cerro Verde, a state mine close to Arequipa, is one of the two big copper mines not yet affected by the strike. Cuajone, U.S. owned and the largest exporter of the Peruvian mines with an annual production of 180,000 tons, is operating normally.

MINERO-Peru, which manages the marketing of almost all the minerals in the country, said yesterday that it is obliged to invoke the clause of unforeseen circumstances in some important copper, lead and silver contracts. It warned in a statement issued last night that the Ilo refinery, close to the Chilean border, will have to suspend operations in the new few days unless work at the Toquepala--U.S.-owned--and Ilo foundries resume operations immediately. The other important Peruvian refinery, Oroya, in the central Andes, stopped operations for an indefinite period last Friday when miners and metal-workers went on an indefinite strike in demand of wage increases and the reinstatement of dismissed workers.

"This means a loss of $100,000 a day without even mentioning other losses such as keeping the two foundry ovens in operation. In 1 month losses could amount to $3 million," the statement added.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT ON FOREIGN DEBT

PA101334Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0404 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 9 Aug (EFE)--Before the end of 1980, Peru will have to pay $4.179 billion in debts, money used for investments that "were not always well-planned" and frequently used for unproductive imports. These statements were made today by Manuel Moreyra Loredo, president of the Peruvian Central Reserve Bank, in a televised speech in which he discussed the country's economic situation.

Moreyra noted that the government's $4.179 billion debt stems from loans which amounted to $672 million in 1973, $1.034 million in 1974, $1.077 million in 1975, $797 million in 1976 and $1.007 million in 1977.

The Central Bank president said that in order to overcome this crisis "considerable sacrifices" will have to be made over a period lasting at least 2 and 1/2 years. Nevertheless, Moreyra promised that the plan drafted to curb the crisis will affect "those who have more the most, not only proportionately but progressively as well." He also affirmed that the three necessary goals toward which the economy will be directed are to increase investment, decrease inflation and secure the supply of foreign resources [as received].

Moreyra blamed the country's large debt on the lack of protection and security for investments and savings, the capital drain, reduced productivity and generalized and indiscriminate subsidies. These economic deficiencies in the economic sector during past years, he added, were based on "an absurd exchange policy and the penalization of savings."

He said that inflation was "the real evil" affecting the country and announced the economic authorities' intention of reducing inflation by 1979 to one-half of this year's rate and that the other half would be eliminated in 1980. In order to do this, he said, we have already planned a "true austerity" program in current spending and a "dramatic" improvement in tax collection. He also said that in order to fight inflation, prices would be readjusted in a realistic fashion, inefficiencies would be cut down in the government and private concerns, salary increases would be halted and the issuance of currency would be controlled.

RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA, HONDURAS TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

PA0919444Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1658 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 9 Aug (AFP)--Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente said here today that Peru will continue its normal relations with Bolivia and Honduras following the installation of new governments in those countries.

When asked if Peru has recognized or will recognize the governments of Gen Juan Pereda in Bolivia and the military junta in Honduras, the minister said: "Peru does not practice the policy of recognition but the policy of the continuation of relations in order to avoid passing judgment on the internal policies of countries." It was recalled that on the occasion of Bolivia's national day the chief of state presented his greetings to Walter Montenegro, Bolivian ambassador to Peru, through one of his aides-de-camp.

JUAN CARLOS VISIT AIMED AT ENHANCING COOPERATION

PY1014455Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Spanish Ambassador to Peru Ignacio Tena stated yesterday that King Juan Carlos' coming visit to Peru is proof of the desire which the king and the crown have to strengthen the policy of rapprochement toward Latin America. King Juan Carlos de Borbon will visit Peru in the second half of November, together with Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja.

The Spanish diplomat stated that the visit is aimed at a greater cooperation, not only at the moral or spiritual level, but also by effectively implementing the economic and technical cooperation agreements reached in the last few years.

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS 48-HOUR VISIT

PY101734Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] The South African foreign minister arrived here at noon today. The minister was met by high-ranking local officials at Carrasco International Airport where he arrived at 1155. The air force band played the national anthems of both South Africa and Uruguay. The South African foreign minister reviewed troops and was declared guest of honor of the Uruguayan Government for the 48 hours of his stay. According to Foreign Ministry sources, the South African foreign minister will hold a press conference tomorrow.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR FUNERAL OF PAUL VI

PY101745Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Adolfo Folle Martinez and protocol director Carlos Maria Romero left the country at 1140 this morning. The two high-ranking officials' destination is Rome, where they will represent the Uruguayan Government at the funeral of Pope Paul VI.

The executive branch has issued a decree appointing Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Julio Cesar Lupinacci as acting foreign minister during the absence of Minister Folle Martinez.

BRIEFS

NAVAL COMMANDER TO PERU--The Uruguayan Navy's commander in chief, Rear Adm Hugo Marquez, will leave for Lima on 18 August to attend the inter-American meeting of navy commanders in chief which will be opened in this city by Peruvian President Francisco Morales Bermudez. [Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY]

LABOR MINISTER TO PARAGUAY--Uruguayan Minister of Transportation and Public Works Eduardo Sampson stated today that during his visit to Paraguay to attend the presidential inauguration of Gen Alfredo Stroessner, he will hold talks with his Paraguayan counterpart on matters of common interest. [Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER EXPLAINS STAND ON NONALINED MEETING

PA100336Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 4 Aug 78 p D11 PA

[Article by Nestor Mora]

[Excerpts] There have been many recent reports--some biased, invented or exaggerated--about an alleged or real crisis in the Andean group. This situation reached its climax as a result of the overthrow of Banzer in Bolivia and the apparent backward step that the process of returning to a democratic system of government seems to have taken in that country. This is worsened by the fact that General Pereda has not been invited to the swearing-in of Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala.

This is the main subject of the interview we held yesterday with Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi. Are there difficulties? Are they serious? Can they be overcome?

"The Andean pact," the minister answered, "does not only have difficulties now but it also had them even before it was created." "It is obvious, and understandable, that this is so," he added, "because this system does not have the blessing of the large interests that might be affected by the development of our countries. During the 10 years of the Andean pact's existence, those difficulties have been gradually overcome. There is no doubt that the determined action and beliefs of President Perez on integration have been essential in the solution of numerous problems. Of course, he has been advised by the executive branch's foreign trade institute throughout this process."

We persisted in one of our questions. Can one say, as some reports have done, that the group is undergoing a crisis?

"At no time can one speak of a crisis," Minister Consalvi said, "But, at the same time, one cannot state that there has been a consolidation of essential programs such as that involving the automotive sector which has been affected by the rivalry and competition among the large multinational corporations which want to continue controlling our markets."

Another subject of international interest is that of the recent nonalined countries' conference in Belgrade. Difficulties emerged there. There was the beginning of splits, particularly because of Cuba's actions in several African countries. Communist China has been promoting the attacks against Cuba.

We asked two questions. What is the Foreign Ministry's position on this conference? Why does Venezuela attend these conferences as an observer rather than as a full member of the group?

"For many years, more than 10," he answered, "Venezuela has attended the nonalined countries' conferences as an observer because we believe that it has been an essential movement in achieving detente between the two superpowers and in overcoming that dangerous phase which we know as the 'cold war,' characterized by constant threats between the two superpowers or between the members of NATO and the Warsaw Pact."

"I believe that the fact that the 'cold war' gave way to a phase of reflection, dialog and strategic negotiations (SALT) is due in great part to the pressure and efforts of the nonalined countries," the foreign minister added.

We continued with our second question. Why isn't Venezuela a full member of the group?

"I will answer that question with the same words that President Perez used to answer the same question from Marshal Tito during his visit to Caracas. 'We are so nonalined that we prefer not to be full members of the nonalined.'"

According to Foreign Minister Consalvi, Venezuela's position has been prudent and wise because "it permits us to play a positive role such as the one played by Minister Perez Guerrero in Belgrade." "From nearby we can be a factor of moderation and balance," he added.

PEREZ SEES BRIGHT FUTURE FOR COLOMBIA UNDER TURBAY AYALA

PA081939Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has said that the speech delivered by Chief of State Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala yesterday during his inauguration was important, adding that it foreshadows prosperous days for Colombia.

[Begin Perez recording] [words indistinct] courtesy and protocol would bind me to say that it was an extraordinary speech [word indistinct]. However, I want you to do me the favor of thinking that it is not the Venezuelan president who is speaking but a Venezuelan citizen, a Latin American citizen interested in the progress of Latin America's integration.

In Julio Cesar Turbay's speech, I have found all of the fundamental elements of the policy which we, many Latin American leaders, have been implementing in favor of integration and the Third World. Moreover, I think it was a sincere, open speech which allows those of us who are looking at Colombia's future from the outside to regard it as promising and full of great possibilities of continued progress for this great Colombian fatherland. [end recording]

URD Leader on Colombia

PA110259Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1849 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 10 Aug (EFE)--Jovito Villalba, top leader of the center-left Democratic Republican Union (URD), said today that a great national consultation among all sectors, including the armed forces, is necessary for finding a definite solution to the Colombian-Venezuelan disagreement [on the marine and submarine areas in the gulf of Venezuela].

Jovito Villalba expressed concern over the way the problem of the marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Venezuela has been dealt with. "I believe," he said, "that relations between the two countries should be the object of fewer speeches and more study and discussion to find an acceptable solution."

After indicating that it is logical that important problems might arise between the two countries, the URD leader stressed that they must be solved objectively and without demagogy on the basis of "a spirit which is faithful to the memory of Simon Bolivar and in defense of our sovereignty."

Jovito Villalba said that the Colombian-Venezuelan disagreement has increasingly become a national problem so there must be consultation "of all Venezuelans, all sectors, including the armed forces, which have by constitutional mandate the mission of defending our sovereignty."

AD Candidate Views Dispute

PA090309Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

["Today's Question" feature by Luis Turneros interviewing Luis Pinerua Ordaz, presidential candidate of the Democratic Action party--recorded]

[Text] [Question] How would you deal with the border dispute between Venezuela and Colombia?

[Answer] We have said an endless number of times that the delimitation of marine and submarine waters between Venezuela and Colombia is a good opportunity for [words indistinct]. It is a problem that should be solved by the two countries in a friendly manner through the understanding and contribution of the two sister nations. This is the synthesis of my opinion on the matter. I am sure that the talks currently underway will continue along these lines. I hope that the two countries will find a fair solution during my administration.

12 CANDIDATES, 17 PARTIES TO RUN IN ELECTIONS

PA091934Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 2-7 Aug 78 p D 8 PA

[Excerpts] The process of registering presidential candidates concluded on 31 July with the formal registration of 12 presidential candidates, one conditionally and one incognito [as published], and 17 national parties. With the closure of registrations by the Supreme Electoral Council the following candidates were accepted:

Luis Pinerua Ordaz	(Democratic Action--AD)
Pablo Salas Castillo	(National Civic Crusade--CCN)
Hector Mujica	(Venezuelan Communist Party--PCV)
Luis Beltran Prieto Figueroa	(People's Electoral Movement--MEP)
Americo Martin	(Movement of the Revolutionary Left--MIR)
Alejandro Gomez Silva	(National Unity Front--FUN)
Diego Arria	(Common Cause and Labor Movement)
Leonrdo Montiel	(National Renewal Movement--MORENA)
Jose Vicente Rangel	(Movement for Socialism and Vanguardia)
Luis Herrera Campins	(Social Christian, Democratic Popular Forces, National Opinion and Democratic Republican Union--COPEI, FDP, OPINA and URD).

At the last minute, on 31 July, the Supreme Electoral Council was presented with petitions from the emancipating force (Fuerza Emancipadora--FE) and the Socialist League asking for the registration of the presidential candidacies of Alberto Solano and Jose Vicente Rangel, respectively. At the same time, the new order party (Partido Nuevo Orden--NORT) presented a writ to the Supreme Electoral Council asking that it be given the right to present a presidential candidate in the future.

CONSALVI TO ATTEND DOMINICAN INAUGURATION

PA101632Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Caracas--Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi will head the Venezuelan delegation to the inauguration of Dominican President-elect Antonio Guzman, scheduled for 15 August, it was revealed here today. The delegation includes, among others, Guido Grooscors, Venezuelan ambassador to Colombia and former ambassador to the Dominican Republic; Gen Honorio Gonzalez Medici; and Venezuelan Ambassador to Santo Domingo Carlos Irazabal, the report added.

CRITICA PRAISES JORDEN'S ROLE AS U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA1100527 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 10 Aug 78 p 4 PA

[From the "Bona Fide" column by Camilo O. Perez: "Brother Indian William Jorden"]

[Text] We are well aware that the U.S. ambassador in Panama is no Indian. He is blue-blooded Saxon and it is not our intention to identify him as a "Black Foot" from Yakima, in the state of Washington. But we shall continue calling him "brother Indian Jorden" because our intention is to pursue the humanist objective of identifying ourselves as human beings with the most mistreated ethnic group on earth, all of which came to be, of course, following the arrival in America of Christopher Columbus.

Besides, during the time he remained in our country striving to promote mutual understanding between our two nations which are closely linked in the operation of the canal, William Jorden showed that he is an open-minded official. Such a virtue is priceless in men who, burdened by the heritage of their ancestors, often commented throughout history and for history on how and why the United States of America has to exist in a world in which the topic of prestige often prevails over the concept of justice and mutual forbearance.

Ambassador Jorden is leaving us, and we salute him as the noble contender on the battlefield on which the final battle is still being waged and which will determine our total national liberation economically and morally.

Brother Indian William Jorden (without implying disrespect but, on the contrary, our honoring of him by making him our brother) leaves a bright path of understanding through the many efforts to understand us and to explain to the Panamanians the best way to make the North American people understand us.

We are convinced that the U.S. ambassador fulfilled his task in absolute good faith. He leaves evidence of his fine work, often filled with subtleties since it is, after all, a diplomatic task. He fulfilled his mediator's role and, believe it or not, dear readers, the role he played in the negotiations determined to a great extent our negotiators' final interpretation of the message of the Carter administration which ultimately resulted in ratification by the Senate, even with amendments.

It is not our intention to analyze the good or bad things in the treaties. We have already done that. Today, when there is so little time left before Mr Jorden and his most intelligent wife return to Austin, Texas, to join the university staff, in addition to his journalistic activities as a featured columnist of the Los Angeles TIMES, we want to express our profound respect, admiration and understanding for this brother Indian who, as a rival and an opponent by virtue of his own strategy of always protecting his country's interests, also leaves evidence of his good faith and wishes for peace and harmony. I offer to him, from one who often distrubed him through this column, from this brother Indian Bona Fide, an embrace and...a farewell because the struggle is hard and it will have to be continued by our natural and intellectual heirs.

VISITING RECTORS PRAISE SPIRIT OF ELECTIONS

PA090416Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 8 Aug 78 p 8 PA

[Statement issued by university rectors invited to observe the 6 August Panamanian corregimiento representatives election--date not given]

[Text] The university rectors of various countries of America, invited by the Panamanian Government to observe the 6 August 1978 election of the members of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, have attended the electoral proceedings in a large number of communities in Panama.

We were able to verify that this electoral event was held in a broad civic and democratic spirit, with large popular participation and without the intervention of police forces. We have observed that the electoral process was carried out in an atmosphere of peace and confidence, that it was scrupulously conducted through the selfless work of teachers, students, firemen and other civic sectors, and that the authorities acted diligently to solve the minor difficulties which came up during the course of the process.

We believe that in these elections the Panamanian people and government have given a constructive example of responsibility and maturity that brings honor to the American continent.

(Signed) Dr Astor Preston, rector of the University of Kingston, Jamaica; Dr Jorge A. Reina, rector of the University of Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Dr Arnold B. Grabman, rector of the University of St. Louis, Missouri; Saul Osorio Paz, rector of the University of San Carlos, Guatemala; Dr Antonio Rosario, rector of the University of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Dr Luis Arraut, rector of the University of Cartagena, Colombia; Dr Dionisio Gonzalez Torres, rector of the University of Asuncion, Paraguay; Dr Eustaqui Remedios de los Queto, rector of the University of Havana, Cuba; Dr Denis Martinez C., secretary general of the University of Nicaragua, Dr Gaston Pons Musso, rector of the Greater University of San Marcos, Lima, Peru.

With the addition that we hope that the event will be a milestone in the strengthening of democracy in Latin America and the political ideas of the Panamanian people will be respected. [sentence as published] Thank you.

TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT SAYS 80 ELECTION CHALLENGES FILED

PA100353Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0318 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 9 Aug (AFP)--The election of 80 of the 505 corregimiento representatives to the National Assembly on Sunday is being challenged. Electoral Tribunal President Luis Carlos Noriega announced tonight that the tribunal has received 80 challenges or requests for annulment of the elections in that number of corregimientos in the country. The electoral tribunal has also received 14 charges of irregularities.

PANAMA RECOGNIZES NEW BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT

PA110113Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Panama has decided to recognize the new Bolivian Government headed by Gen Juan Pereda Asbun. In a note sent to Bolivian Foreign Minister Ricardo Anaya, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry reiterated Panama's solidarity with Bolivia's struggle to obtain an outlet to the sea.

The communique signed by Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalez-Revilla added that Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera was favorably impressed by his meeting with Bolivian president Juan Pereda Asbun in Bogota, Colombia. The two leaders met in Bogota on 7 August during the inauguration of Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala. The Foreign Ministry communique also conveys greetings from the Panamanian Government and people to the Bolivian Government and people.

Last week, Radio Libertad spoke by telephone with Panamanian Ambassador to Bolivia Manuel Ruiz who said that recognition of the Pereda Asbun government would take place this week. He also said that several European and Latin American nations had recognized the Bolivian Government, which was established after a bloodless military coup resulting in the removal of Gen Hugo Banzer.

PANAMA TO RECEIVE CUBA'S ASSISTANCE IN OYSTER PROJECT

PA1l0442Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Cuba will assist Panama in the breeding of oysters in a project which is being implemented on Bocas del Toro Island in Bocas del Toro Province. The 5-year project will require an approximate investment of 250,000 balboas, Dario Lopez, marine biologist at the Commerce and Industries Ministry, told this station. A third of the project will be financed by the World Bank and the remainder by the national government.

The marine resources official said that Cuba provides technical assistance to Panama in this field in view of its experience over the past 12 years in growing oysters on the Caribbean island. Ten oyster farms are operating successfully in Cuba with 200 growth lines. Cuba's oyster production in recent years has totaled from 200 to 300 tons a year for domestic consumption. Lopez said that after a year of research in Bocas del Toro, the oyster project is considered feasible and profitable.

During the 5 years of the project, the groundwork will be established for a permanent economic activity in Bocas del Toro for the benefit of 400 families. With this, the Commerce and Industries Ministry is promoting the creation of jobs and export production, the marine resources official reported.

BRIEFS

ACTING MINISTER NAMED--Official sources informed LA REPUBLICA this morning that Gustavo Gonzalez, planning and economic policy vice minister, will take over the ministry until a new minister is appointed. Gonzalez may assume the post before 1 September when the present minister, Nicolas Ardito Barletta, will take over his new job with the World Bank. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Aug 78 pp 1A, 4A PA]

CHILEAN BANK OPENING--Jorge Javier Vial Castillo, president of the Association of Chilean Banks and vice president of the Latin American Bank Federation, today announced that four Chilean banks have opened in Panama City the Banco Andino which will operate with an initial capital of 1 million balboas. He said that it is the first Chilean Bank board and will offer a wide range of international banking services. The four Chilean banks with shares in the Banco Andino are the Banco Hopotecario y de Fomento de Chile, Banco O'Higgins, Banco Sud Americano, Banco de Chile and B.I.C. Development Corporation. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 1 Aug 78 PA]

GUATEMALA

FOUR GUERRILLAS KILLED IN ATTACK ON POLICE POST

PA092142Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1857 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Four guerrillas were killed by the Guatemalan police today when a subversive group tried to attack the police post in San Rafael las Flores in Santa Rosa Department. According to a report from Guatemalan police general headquarters, several other subversives fled after suffering casualties. The report added that police units were immediately dispatched to Santa Rosa Department, located 60 km from here in southeastern Guatemala, to search for the rest of the attackers. The police suffered no casualties.

KIDNAPING OF URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR'S DAUGHTER FAILS

PA091451Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1228 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] While riding through Guatemala City in the car with diplomatic license plate No 81 last night, Miss Viviana Soriano, daughter of the Uruguayan ambassador to Guatemala, was intercepted by two well-dressed men in a jeep. National police agent Francisco Flores, who was in charge of the girl's protection, prevented the two unidentified men from kidnaping here. Miss Soriano, 15, was on her way to the Uruguayan Embassy when a jeep intercepted the diplomatic car and tried to force her to get out of the vehicle in the vicinity of Zone 9, in south Guatemala City. The policeman's timely intervention prevented the kidnaping.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION WORKERS GO ON STRIKE

PA101810Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1501 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Aug (LATIN)--Urban transportation workers unexpectedly went on strike this morning, demanding better salaries. The strike, which had been announced more than eight days ago, caught thousands of workers by surprise [as received]. They faced difficulties in going to their places of employment.

An assembly of urban transportation drivers decided on the work stoppage. Government spokesmen have noted that the transportation service could be put under military control. This is the second urban transportation work stoppage in less than 30 days. The first strike eneded after the labor minister organized a mixed commission to find a solution to the problem.

The drivers are demanding a salary no lower than 7.90 quetzales (the same amount in dollars) per day. The Labor Ministry Commission has said that the minimum daily salary should be 4.90 quetzales. At present, the workers are paid 3.13 quetzales per day.

The mixed commission has recommended the municipal takeover of the urban transportation service since the bus owners have noted that they are not making a profit as a result of the government's decision not to allow a fare increase.

For the past 40 years fares have been 0.05 quetzales. Bus owners have asked to be allowed to increase fares to 0.10 quetzales, to enable them to satisfy salary demands. The mixed commission has recommended that the fare increase request be granted.

This morning, when the strike became known, police patrols were immediately sent to centers where buses are kept in order to prevent any possible disorders.

HONDURAS

JUNTA PRESIDENT SAYS ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN 1980

PA110413Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0334 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 10 Aug (AFP)--Gen Policarpo Paz, president of the military junta that has ruled Honduras since Monday, when Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro was overthrown, announced today that elections will be held in Honduras in 1980. The general made the statement during a television interview broadcast in San Jose tonight over the program Noticias. Policarpo Paz said that "calm reigns in Honduras and the government will carry out all the programs which benefit the Honduran people." He said that "the negotiations for an eventual renewal of diplomatic relations with El Salvador will continue expeditiously."

The new Honduran ruler also said that "the country's private enterprises can be calm since the government will fully respect this activity and will greatly encourage it." This is the first interview that General Paz has granted since he assumed power on Monday night.

PRESS SAYS U.S. HAD ROLE IN CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT

PA101722Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1647 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 10 August (ACAN-EFE)--Certain local news media maintain that the U.S. military mission in this capital has given its "stamp of approval" to the coup against Melgar. There are strong indications that there were disagreements between the former chief of state and the Superior Council of the Armed Forces which placed him in power in 1975 after the overthrow of Gen Oswaldo Lopez Arellano. It is even being said that the U.S. Embassy encouraged the change of government because Melgar Castro, under the advice of two influential aides, was preparing to remain in power, going against the new attitude of the State Department, which favors civilian governments.

The triumvirate has promised to hold elections in 1980. The report on the U.S. role in the overthrow is being discussed in political and news circles but it has come out only indirectly in a Tegucigalpa daily, which has reported that the U.S. Embassy, which is run by a woman, stopped an ultrarightist coup attempt more than 20 days ago. The U.S. military mission, according to the same report, reportedly convinced some army officers that a hardline government would not be suitable in Central America at this moment since countries of this area are experiencing explosive situations. So a change of power, which would respect the social achievements of city and countryside workers and human rights and call for a prompt return to a democratic government by the beginning of 1980 at the latest, was planned.

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS RECOGNITION SUPERFLUOUS

PA101904Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1720 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Honduran Foreign Minister Col Roberto Palma Galvez said yesterday that the recognition of the military junta by other countries is not necessary because the armed forces government has continued in power. The foreign minister arrived from Colombia at 1730. He had attended the inauguration of Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala. He immediately went to the government palace to inform the military junta on the results of his trip.

He said that he has still not met with the chiefs of the diplomatic missions because of a lack of time but that he understood that the nations they represent are not obliged to transmit their recognition of the military junta because the government of the armed forces has been in power in the country since 1972.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT BUESO RESIGNS

PA101639Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1437 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 10 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--It was confirmed here late yesterday evening that Guillermo Bueso, the most important economic adviser of former chief of state Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, has resigned from his post as president of the Central Bank of Honduras. The new military junta presided over by Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia is now seeking a substitute for Bueso, who together with Cesar Batres--who has also resigned--had great influence on Melgar Castro's decisions concerning domestic and foreign policies.

Apparently, Bueso irrevocably resigned the day before yesterday. Today, Thursday, it has been confirmed that Bueso has been criticized by news organs as a result of the bonuses that he awarded himself before resigning. It has been reported here that Bueso is taking 180,000 lempiras ($90,000) with him, in line with rules on labor benefit payments that he himself approved a few months ago. He will also receive a pension of 3,000 lempiras ($1,5000) a month for life. This pension became payablethe minute he resigned from the institution. This pension is higher than that to which former Honduran chiefs of state are entitled: $750.

So far the triumvirate has not said who will take over Bueso's post, but the names of various bureaucrats and bankers who worked for past administrations are being mentioned.

EDUCATION MINISTER ASKS FOR TEACHER, STUDENT COOPERATION

PA110313Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1857 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 10 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The new ministers of the triumvirate which has ruled Honduras since Monday began to explain today the new orientation they will give to the posts in which they were installed today. Eugenio Matute Canizales, head of the Education Ministry, one of the most controversial in the past few years, asked for dialog and cooperation from the teacher and student sectors, which for more than 3 years demanded that the Melgar Castro government dismiss former Education Minister Lidia Williams de Arias.

"I hope I will obtain the cooperation of all the country's teacher organizations, in order to solve the education problems Honduras currently faces," Matute Canizales said.

The education minister, who was ambassador to Guatemala until yesterday, made these statements at the end of talks with leaders of the two main teacher organizations: the Professional Association for the Improvement of Teaching in Honduras and the PRICHMA [expansion unknown].

NICARAGUA

POLICE QUELL YOUTH PROTEST IN MANAGUA

PA101600Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1310 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 10 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Police squads quelled a protest demonstration staged by youths of the Riguero District in the southern part of the capital.

The youths had been barricading the streets with trash cans and vehicles. The youths started bonfires and detonated powerful bombs. Military reinforcements which arrived on the scene arrested six of the demonstrators and fired shots into t e air to disperse the crowd. These incidents took place a few blocks from the Rene Schick National Institute, where professors and students refused to enter the classrooms in protest over clashes which took place last Tuesday with soldiers who have remained inside the institute.

On 9 July, groups of students who had occupied the country's high schools in a coordinated antigovernmental action were evicted by the military. In an attempt to normalize school activities the public education authorities have considered it advisable to have the soldiers remain at the schools.

FOREIGN DEBT REPORTED IN EXCESS OF $8 BILLION

PA101925Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] With additional debts, Nicaragua's foreign debt amounts to over $8 billion. The series of new debts contracted by the government with usurious foreign banks is plunging us deeper into economic crisis every day. According to information provided by the Central Bank of Nicaragua, our country had a foreign debt of over $7 billion. A large part of the general expenditures budget of the nation goes toward paying foreign debts and the interest on them, which has not brought much progress to the nation.

Not satisfied with this debt, the government, seeing itself in dire economic straits, is resorting to very excessive loans to cover the budget for the rest of the year. We see that several loans, amounting to $41 million, payable in 2 years at high interest rates, have been obtained, with commissions being paid into heaven knows whose pockets.

The Chamber of Deputies has approved, (?along with) these $41 million, a new $20 million loan for the National Development Institute, an $11 million loan for the Suyapa-San Carlos Highway and other loans, setting Nicaragua's foreign debt at over $8 billion. This means that Nicaragua owes 56 billion cordobas, plus the interest on other loans, abroad. This will turn Nicaraguans and their children into slaves.

BRIEFS

SALVADORAN POLICE APPOINTMENT--Col Jose Angel Avendano has been appointed chief of the investigations department of the national police. He replaced Col Adolfo Blandon, who was appointed military attache at the Salvadoran Embassy in Washington, D.C. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 2 Aug 78 pp 2, 15 PA]

NEW GUATEMALAN JUSTICE--Jose Trinidad Ucles Ramirez, president of the Guatemalan Congress, swore in the new president of the Supreme Court, Enrique Ovando Barillas, and other members of the Supreme Court, in a special ceremony on 1 August. [Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 3 Aug 78 PA]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

MPD CRITICIZES GUZMAN'S GOVERNMENT PLANS

PA100219Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2341 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[By Rosendo Sepulveda]

[Text] Santo Domingo, 9 Aug (EFE)--Before even taking office President-elect Antonio Guzman today received the first harsh criticism from the Communists of the Dominican Popular Movement (MPD), because of his plans for forming a government. According to the MPD, Guzman has a mistaken notion of what constitutes a national unity government. The Communists say that that type of government is not formed with public employees or members of various political parties since national unity is based on another concept. The MPD believes that a national unity government should be formed on the basis of an anti-imperialist program through which the patriotic, revolutionary and democratic forces unite against foreign domination, achieve sovereignty and establish a regime that ends foreign intervention and control. According to the Communists, these objectives are incompatible with alliances with local proimperialist forces. The MPD members believe that the Antonio Guzman government does not meet these conditions even though so far there are only rumors about the composition of the future cabinet. The rumors indicate that prominent businessmen who are in some way linked to capital and large U.S. companies will probably participate in Guzman's government.

The rumors note that those businessmen and industrialists, along with leaders of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, will form part of the government that will assume power on 16 August. Guzman has maintained complete silence about the composition of his cabinet.

ECUADOR

DEMOCRATIC LEFT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA101505Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 29 Jul 78 p 5 PA

[Communique issued by Democratic Left--date and place unknown]

[Excerpts] The Democratic Left reaffirms its decision to continue its struggle for the elimination of social injustice, for the fair distribution of wealth and for the satisfaction of the demands made by white and blue collar workers, peasants and the underprivileged groups which live in city ghettos and which are the substance and foundation of our activities.

The elections are a mere episode in the country's history. The election results reflect the feelings of the people and, in Ecuador, the results were an emotional reply to eight years of dictatorship, administrative inability and the attempt to carry out the constitutionalization process with certain exclusions. These were the factors which gave the winning candidate the prestige usually acquired by men, ideas or parties persecuted by the government. The election results clearly show that our people did not choose an ideology but mainly acted on the basis of emotion and circumstance. But whatever the interpretation given to the elections the Democratic Left states that its political action goes above and beyond the episode of the elections and that its mission for the country, to seek social justice with freedom, is of a permanent nature and is vigorously projected toward the future.

At this political crossroads we have reached, which demands that the party define its position for the run-off elections, the Democratic Left states that it cannot go against its ideological principles. It fought against the political and economic rightwing and it will maintain its position. The Democratic Left does not make any pacts or alliances and consequently it will not negotiate any political agreements with Jaime Roldos or with the movements that support him. It will not even make any contacts with the winning candidacy. It limits itself to ordering its members and asking its supporters to vote for Jaime Roldos in the run-off elections because of his campaign promises which, under the present circumstances, are the ones closest to the interests of the people, provided that he maintains his political independence from the oligarchic groups that want to take over power. The Democratic Left will not accept any political responsibility in the new administration, will maintain its absolute independence and will reserve for itself the right to watch over the compliance with campaign promises and to criticize the mistakes of the new administration.

The Chamber of Representatives will be the ideal instrument for political control and for this reason the Democratic Left demands immediate formation of the chamber.

Social justice with freedom.

[signed] Gonzalo Cordova Galarza, director, for the national executive council of the Democratic Left

ADMIRAL POVEDA BURBANO RETURNS FROM COLOMBIAN INAUGURATION

PA091945Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Admiral Poveda Burbano, president of the Supreme Council of Government, returned to Quito today from Bogota. He left on Monday for the Colombian capital to attend the inauguration of Colombia's constitutional president, Turbay Ayala.

GUYANA

TWO LOANS FROM OPEC SPECIAL FUND GRANTED

FL091330Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 5 Aug 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Guyana has been granted two loans totalling $6 million (U.S.) by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) special fund, according to two loan agreements dated July 28, and presented in parliament yesterday.

One loan, which is for $4 million (U.S.) will be used to assist with the financing of the big Tapakuma irrigation project now in train on the Essequibo coast.

And the second loan, which is for $2 million (U.S.), will be used to provide balance of payments support for the country.

The OPEC special fund was set up by OPEC member countries to provide financial support to developing countries on concessional terms.

The contributing parties are the Democratic and the Popular Republic of Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, People's Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela.

JAMAICA

OPPOSITION MP CRITICIZES CUBAN TRAINING PROGRAM

FL091451Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 78 FL

[Text] The opposition MP for Southeast St Mary, Mr (Alden Ross), has sharply criticized the training program for Jamaican young men in Cuban brigadiers [as heard]. In a telegram responding to a request to submit recommendations [words indistinct] to train in Cuba, Mr (Ross) alleged that there were several young men who had participated in the program and who had expressed their strong disapproval. Mr (Ross) has called on government to discontinue the program and to find other means of helping the youth.

BRIEFS

DOMINCAN FOREIGN DEBT--Santo Domingo, 18 Jul (EFE)--Dominican Central Bank reports state that the country's foreign debt as of 31 December 1977 amounts to more than 1,076,000,000 $625.6 million of which is owed to the public sector and $451.2 million to the private sector. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0137 GMT 19 Jul 78 PA]

JAMAICAN EXPORTS UP--The value of Jamaica's total exports for March, this year, rose to $71.9 million, or 87.2 per cent over the February value of $40.4 million, the API [Agency for Public Information] says. The sections "foods" and "crude materials, inedible except fuels" both recorded substantial increases in value. But "food" and "mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials" were the main contributors to an increase in the imports which were valued at $102.8 million for the month of March, this year. The increase represented $33.4 million, or 48.2 percent above the value of $69.4 million for February, 1978. [Excerpt] [Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 78 p 2 FL]

ECUADOR SIGNS CULTURAL AGREEMENT--Ecudaor has signed the San Salvador convention on the defense of the archeological, historical and artistic patrimony of the American nations. So far, the convention has been signed by Chile, Guatemala and Panama. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Jul 78 PA]

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